

# Public Document Pack



**Nottingham  
City Council**

## **Nottingham City Council Corporate Parenting Board**

**Date:** Monday, 21 September 2020

**Time:** 2.30 pm

**Place:** Remote - To be held remotely via Zoom -  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/NottCityCouncil>

**Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business**

**Director for Legal and Governance**

**Governance Officer:** Kate Morris **Direct Dial:** 0115 876 4353

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Declarations of Interests**
- 3 Minutes** 3 - 8  
Of the meeting held on 27 July 2020 (for confirmation)
- 4 Leaving Care - Pathway Planning and Supporting Transitions** 9 - 18  
Report of the Director of Children's Integrated Services
- 5 Children in Care: Key Performance Indicators - April-June 2020 (Q1)** 19 - 22  
Presentation by Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
- 6 Creating the Conditions for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Carers to Flourish** Verbal Report  
Presentation by Director of Children's Integrated Services
- 7 Children in Care Council update** Verbal Report  
Engagement and Participation Lead Officer to report.
- 8 Forward Plan** 23 - 24  
Discussion item
- 9 Dates of future meetings**  
To note that meetings will be held at 2.30pm on the following Mondays

(either at Loxley House or via Zoom video conferencing, dependent on the pandemic situation at the time):

16 November 2020  
18 January 2021  
15 March 2021

If you need any advice on declaring an interest in any item on the agenda, please contact the Governance Officer shown above, if possible before the day of the meeting

Citizens are advised that this meeting may be recorded by members of the public. Any recording or reporting on this meeting should take place in accordance with the Council's policy on recording and reporting on public meetings, which is available at [www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk](http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk). Individuals intending to record the meeting are asked to notify the Governance Officer shown above in advance.

## Nottingham City Council

### Corporate Parenting Board

Minutes of the meeting held remotely via Zoom and livestreamed on the Council's YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/NottCityCouncil> on 27 July 2020 from 9.00 am - 10.30 am

#### Membership

##### Present

Councillor Cheryl Barnard (Chair)  
Councillor Nicola Heaton  
Councillor Maria Joannou  
Councillor Rebecca Langton  
Councillor Georgia Power  
Councillor Maria Watson  
Councillor Cate Woodward

##### Absent

Councillor Jay Hayes  
Councillor Phil Jackson  
Councillor Neghat Khan

Councillor AJ Matsiko (substitute for Councillor Neghat Khan)

#### Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Clive Chambers - Head of Service Children in Care  
Jasmin Howell - Head of Service Virtual School  
Sophie Russell - Head of Children's Strategy and Improvement  
Alison Wakefield - Service Manager Children in Care  
Catherine Underwood - Corporate Director for People  
Jane Garrard - Senior Governance Officer

#### 1 Apologies for absence

Councillor Phil Jackson  
Councillor Neghat Khan (other Council business)

#### 2 Declarations of Interests

None

#### 3 Minutes

The Board confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2020 as an accurate record and they were signed by the Chair.

#### 4 The impact of Covid 19 on services to children in care

Clive Chambers, Head of Service for Children in Care, gave a presentation about the impact of the current Coronavirus outbreak on services to children in care. He highlighted the following information:

- (a) There has been a significant impact on ways of working and how services are being delivered.
- (b) Risk assessments were carried out for all children in care to identify what contact should look like during this period. These risk assessments are being reviewed in line with new guidance and to reflect changing circumstances.
- (c) The majority of contact with children and young people has been undertaken virtually. Generally, there has been positive feedback about the virtual contact arrangements and some young people have said that they prefer it. Two complaints have been received about contact between children and their parents, both towards the end of the lockdown period when restrictions were being eased but it was still important to ensure that contact arrangements were conducted safely. Face-to-face contact between staff and children/young people has been maintained when needed and appropriate personal protective equipment is provided for staff.
- (d) There has been more frequent contact with children in care, even for those in long-term stable placements. However feedback was received from some young people that this was too frequent and therefore, where it was safe to do so, the frequency of contact has now been reduced.
- (e) All children in care reviews are taking place virtually and this has been really successful. There have been particular benefits in relation to efficiency, for example even if a child has been placed in a different part of the country their review could take place without colleagues having to travel. Again we have had positive feedback from some young people about this way of working
- (f) There have been some limited mental health services for children in care continuing face to face but this has been challenging, and the majority of support has either been virtual such as the provision of online resources or suspended because virtual support isn't appropriate e.g. art therapy has been suspended and will be returning as a face to face service when it is safe to do so.
- (g) The majority of engagement with foster carers has been done virtually, but face-to-face contact has taken place when necessary.
- (h) Internal residential care service has been particularly challenged by the impact of staff shielding and therefore staff from the youth and play services were deployed to support that service. Staff are now returning to work but there is concern about the service if there are further local outbreaks plans required. So far there has been one suspected case of Covid-19 in an internal residential care setting, which was a challenging situation to deal with but colleagues were well supported by the Council's Public Health Team.
- (i) Children in care medicals have been taking place virtually and there is a recovery plan in place to return to a face-to-face service.
- (j) There have been a number of issues and challenges relating to court proceedings which has meant delays and some cases being prioritised over others. National guidance was produced that enabled some less complex cases

to proceed without the need for individuals to be present. One area impacted has been adoption and the service has had to work creatively to help children transition to adoptive placements.

- (k) All children with a social worker have been entitled to attend school during this period but in reality the situation has been more complex for example some carers have been shielding and/or concerned about the safety of children they are caring for attending school. Therefore attendance rates have been relatively low (approx. 45%), although this is in line with the national attendance rates. Regular meetings are being held with colleagues from Education Teams to identify ways to promote education opportunities and resources have been developed for foster carers and residential providers.
- (l) There has been an increase in breakdowns in foster care placements for a variety of reasons including the challenges some children have found in social distancing, and the pressures of caring for children during this period. The child placement market is currently very challenging and a commissioning review will be taking place to look at capacity.
- (m) The Department for Education introduced a range of flexibilities to the regulatory framework, but the Council has not used the majority of these. Flexibilities have been adopted in relation to health self-declarations by potential foster carers; first reviews of foster carers where there are no concerns or issues; changes to Panel membership; and arrangements for independent visits to children's homes. It does not appear that the majority of the flexibilities will be continued and therefore even though feedback about some of the changes has been positive e.g. virtual contact with children in long-term stable placements.

During the subsequent discussion the following points were made:

- (n) Council staff and foster carers have done a great job in supporting children and young people during this time.
- (o) The reasons why some children have said they prefer virtual contact include that it fits better within their lifestyle; online communication is how they communicate with other people in their lives; it can sometimes be more comfortable and less intense to discuss issues without physically sitting close to someone. However, it is unlikely that virtual contact will be able to continue once the current period of regulatory flexibilities expires.
- (p) The Children in Care Council has continued and is working well.
- (q) The impact on children's mental health is being assessed, including by working with carers, mental health services and other partners. A range of resources have been developed to support people but it is anticipated that there will have been a negative impact as a result of factors such as isolation from peers. This is one of the reasons why the continuation of the Children in Care Council has been so important.

- (r) There has been a reduction in safeguarding referrals but there has been less of a reduction amongst those whose need is greatest. The number of children in care and children subject to Child Protection Plans is higher than usual.
- (s) Recruitment of foster carers has continued and there have been several successful foster carer recruitment events.

The Board thanked colleagues for their work in adapting services to respond to the circumstances of the current Coronavirus outbreak.

## **5 Children in care and care leavers strategy**

Clive Chambers, Head of Service for Children in Care, introduced the draft Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy in order to enable the Board to provide feedback as part of the consultation process on development of the new Strategy. He highlighted the following information:

- (a) It is important to recognise that 'corporate parenting' does not just refer to the work of Children's Services but all parts of the Council can and should contribute e.g. through provision of access to leisure facilities.
- (b) Children in care and care leavers have contributed to development of the Strategy and, in particular, members of the Children in Care Council have spoken openly with passion and insight. Evidence has also been obtained from the Have Your Say surveys.
- (c) The Strategy aims to promote aspiration in children and young people.
- (d) An important aspect of the Strategy is preparing care leavers for independent living. The use of appropriate language and communication on this is crucial so that care leavers don't feel that they are being told to leave, but are prepared and able to move on when the time comes.
- (e) Safety is a really important concept and children have to be assured that being in care will keep them safe. Signs of Safety training is being reintroduced and all colleagues within the Department will have completed the training by the end of August.

During discussion the following comments were made about the draft Strategy:

- (f) The Strategy should recognise that, in some cases children in care have been abused. The Council is implementing the action plan developed in response to the findings of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and the NSPCC has recently carried out an audit of harmful sexual behaviour, looking at practice now. Overall outcomes from the audit were positive but some things have been identified that need to be done differently. When it is identified that a child has been sexually abused while in care (whether by a carer or peers) there is now a robust reporting process. In the last 5-6 months that this process has been in place, there has been one case.

- (g) Following learning from events in Rotherham, an audit of local practice was undertaken. A Child Sexual Exploitation Manager is in post to lead on this work and multi-agency arrangements are in place. However, there is no complacency and the Council needs to continually challenge its self on this.
- (h) It is important for the Strategy to focus on preventative work to increase resilience and confidence amongst children in care and care leavers. One way of doing this is through ensuring placement stability and work in settings such as schools to promote resilience, positive relationships and aspiration so that children in care and care leavers understand that it is ok for them to feel valued.

**Resolved to request that the feedback and comments made on the draft Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy are incorporated into the final Strategy document.**

## **6 Education attainment of children in care**

Jasmin Howell, Head of Virtual School, presented the report detailing the verified 2018/19 attainment data for children in care. She highlighted the following information:

- (a) During the current Coronavirus outbreak, the Virtual School has undertaken some additional roles, including:
  - i. issuing laptops to those who need them. 230 laptops have been provided to children in care and 20 to children subject to Special Guardianship Orders. During this period, the Pupil Premium has been used to directly benefit pupils, such as through the provision on laptops, rather than going to schools;
  - ii. monitoring school attendance of children in care has required a different approach. Virtual school and social care colleagues worked closely in relation to this and this allowed us to understand why children were not attending, which will help plan to support them to return
  - iii. developing a recovery plan for children who are particularly vulnerable e.g. unaccompanied asylum seekers and children in Year 6 transitioning to Year 7.
- (b) At Key Stage 2, lots of the data is suppressed due to the small numbers. Performance was lower than the previous year and in comparison with the rest of the East Midlands and statistical neighbours. The reasons for this are being explored and will be reported to the Board in due course. Of the 23 children in the cohort, 18 didn't achieve the expected standards in maths however 7 were working at lower levels due to special education needs. There was a similar picture for reading, writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling.
- (c) At Key Stage 4, data is also suppressed but performance was better, with an improvement compared with the previous year although not as good as in 2016/17. 20% of pupils achieved Grade 4 or above for English and Maths. This is higher than other areas in the East Midlands and statistical neighbours. While this improvement is positive, it is important to recognise that it was a small cohort (40 children) and therefore individual performance can make a significant difference overall.
- (d) It is known that multiple placement moves impacts on educational outcomes.

- (e) Work is taking place to identify whether interventions can be more targeted to help current Key Stage 2 pupils improve for Key Stage 4 assessments.
- (f) It is concerning to see drops in attainment and it will be important to understand why this has happened and how the Council can address the issues.

During discussion the following points were made:

- (g) The cohort that performed well in 2016/17 had fewer vulnerabilities than other cohorts, for example less pupils with special educational needs.
- (h) A Coronavirus recovery plan is being developed and as part of this schools will be carrying out learning loss assessments. This will help to identify what interventions are required. It is anticipated that there will be learning loss for all children, not just children in care. The potential for learning loss was one of the key drivers for using the Pupil Premium to fund the provision of laptops, develop resources for foster carers and to offer some 1:1 tuition particularly for Year 10 pupils.
- (i) The introduction of the EPEP system in September 2020 will facilitate ongoing monitoring of progress. Every term and at every assessment point, cohort information will be tracked to monitor improvement and decline enabling appropriate and timely intervention. In future reporting to the Board it would be useful to have some of this context behind attainment data so that progress by children can be reviewed by the Board. However, it was noted that one of the challenges in doing this is that people enter and leave care at different points.
- (j) Action is taken to minimise the number of school moves, especially for older children, as it is known that this impacts on educational outcomes. Most school moves are a result of placement changes that result in a school being too far to travel to. However, some school moves are due to temporary exclusion. The Virtual School challenges permanent exclusions as much as possible, emphasising the particular vulnerabilities of children in care.

The Board noted the recent trends and current levels of educational attainment for Nottingham City's children in care in comparison to all children and children in care nationally; and the current and planned work of the Virtual School to promote and support the educational achievement of Nottingham City's looked after children.

## **7 Next meeting date**

The Board noted that the date of the next meeting was provisionally scheduled to be 21 September 2020 at 2:30pm.

**Corporate Parenting Board  
21<sup>st</sup> September 2020**

<b>Title of paper:</b>	Care Leavers – Pathway Planning and Supporting Transitions	
<b>Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):</b>	Helen Blackman, Director for Children’s Integrated Services	<b>Wards affected:</b> All
<b>Report author(s) and contact details:</b>	Clive Chambers, Head of Children in Care <a href="mailto:clive.chambers@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">clive.chambers@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Other colleagues who have provided input:</b>		
<b>Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)</b>		
<b>Relevant Council Plan Key Theme:</b>		
Nottingham People		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Living in Nottingham		<input type="checkbox"/>
Growing Nottingham		<input type="checkbox"/>
Respect for Nottingham		<input type="checkbox"/>
Serving Nottingham Better		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):</b>		
This report explores the current operating environment for the Leaving Care Service and outlines developmental work that is underway to respond to this through the City’s Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) arrangements.		
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>		
<b>1</b>	To note the contents of the report.	
<b>2</b>	That members of Corporate Parenting Board consider whether there is further support that they could offer to support good transitions for care leavers into accommodation, education, employment or training and to promote the development of good services to meet their health and emotional needs.	

## 1 Reasons for recommendations

- 1.1 The Corporate Parenting Board is a key mechanism for ensuring that Nottingham City Council discharges its statutory responsibilities towards Children in Care and Care Leavers. It is critical that members of the Corporate Parenting Board consider how they can work to promote good services for Care Leavers, which enable a successful transition to adulthood for our young people.

## 2 Background (including outcomes of consultation)

- 2.1 Care Leavers are young people who have been in the care of the Local Authority for a period of 13 weeks or more spanning their 16th birthday. Young people are entitled to support from the ages of 18 – 25 and the nature of this support is set out in their Pathway Plan. Up until the age of 21 there are statutory requirements about visiting frequencies and regular reviews of Pathway Plans. Post 21 years of age contact and Pathway Plan

review frequencies are dictated by the young person’s level of need. What this may mean in practice is that a young person over the age of 21 may not have contact with the service for long periods of time, but can request support at particularly difficult periods in their life.

- 2.2 Young people are entitled to Care Leavers support, irrespective of the reasons that they came into care. There is no differentiation between those young people who came into care due to safeguarding concerns and those who were remanded into care as a consequence of offending behaviour. This is an important position as it recognises the vulnerabilities of young people involved in serious criminality.
- 2.3 All Local Authorities have to publish the support that they offer to Care Leavers in something that is referred to as a Local Offer. Nottingham City Council’s Local Offer can be accessed via the following link –

[www.asklion.co.uk/kb5/nottingham/directory/advice.page?id=wtrOoglUhDY](http://www.asklion.co.uk/kb5/nottingham/directory/advice.page?id=wtrOoglUhDY)

- 2.4 Local Authorities are responsible for the Care Leavers support for those children who were in their care, irrespective of where they live. We currently have children living in London and other parts of England and one young woman who will be undertaking university study in the USA.
- 2.5 On 27.08.20, there were 290 Nottingham City Care Leavers open to the Care Leavers Service. Of these 277 were under the age of 21, although it should be noted that other young people aged over 21 will also be receiving incidental support via the Duty Service. 278 young people had had their Pathway Plan reviewed within the past 6 months. Of those who hadn’t had their plan reviewed, the biggest single factor was difficulty in engaging with the young person, some of whom were in custody. A recent dip sample audit of Pathway Plans had identified a number of areas for development, which will be included in the Directorate’s ongoing Improvement Plan. This includes the review, in consultation with Care Leavers, of the Pathway Plan format. Feedback from Care Leavers and Personal Advisors has been that the current format is not young-person friendly and is not engaging.
- 2.6 Suitability of accommodation and employment, education and training (EET) status are key issues in the lives of care leavers.

	<b>Nottingham City as of 27.08.20</b>	<b>Nottingham City 2019/20 Outturn</b>	<b>Statistical Neighbour Comparator 2019/20</b>
<b>Suitable Accommodation</b>	88.6%	90%	86%
<b>EET</b>	58.2%	66%	53%

- 2.7 Of the 33 young people not in suitable accommodation, 25 are young people in custody. Custody cannot be considered suitable accommodation according to the definition we work to.
- 2.8 Although in many ways our performance is positive, the operating environment that the Leaving Care Service works in has become much more challenging as a consequence of Covid-19. We are already seeing an impact in relation to the availability of accommodation and anticipate a significant impact on EET opportunities for Care

Leavers. The challenges in relation to accommodation have served to exacerbate what was already a difficult situation, particularly for those young people who are not ready to live independently at the age of 18. There is no commissioned accommodation for care leavers in this situation which means that young people have to follow a route developed to meet the needs of homeless adults.

2.9 In response to these challenges, the service are working proactively with partners to respond and ensure our Care Leavers are supported.

#### 2.10 Work with Barnardo's

- Barnardo's are a national children's charity that deliver a wide spectrum of services across the Country. One of their supporters left them a significant legacy, with the sole stipulation that the money had to be spent on services in Nottinghamshire and/or Nottingham City. Following consultation with a range of local agencies and children/young people, Barnardo's concluded that this legacy will have the biggest impact if used to support Care Leavers from Nottingham City. Barnardo's are fully involved in the work set out below.
- Although this funding is substantial there is a risk that it could quickly be used on services that are not sustainable. Given this, the focus is on using the funding for services that we can pilot, but only where there is a clearly identified potential source of sustainable funding. That said, improvements will not only have a positive impact on outcomes, it should create efficiencies by ensuring services are better designed to reduce crisis points.

#### 2.11 Work with the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP)

- The ICP have identified Care Leavers as one of its priority cohorts. The ICP brings together leaders from across services operating locally and so is an excellent opportunity to increase the engagement of other agencies in supporting local care leavers. We working closely with colleagues from a range of other organisations to focus on improving the local offer with regard to
  - Accommodation
  - Positive destinations, i.e. Employment, Education and Training opportunities
  - Transitions for those with mental health need.

SWOT analysis and key next steps for each of these area are appended to this report

- Linked to both of these work streams is a review of the commissioning arrangements for children's placements. This will focus on a range of issues, one of which is to move towards a more outcomes focussed model of commissioning semi-independent provision locally. This should promote more positive transitions to adulthood by ensuring young people are better prepared for this.

2.12 The final area of developmental work that is currently underway is work that was initiated with the Mental Health Foundation. This is a national charity that we were working with to develop a Big Lottery bid to fund services to promote positive mental health for children in care and care leavers. This bid had been successful in getting to

the final stage of the process however Big Lottery funding was ring fenced for services linked to Covid-19. We worked with the Mental Health Foundation to re-shape the bid to bring in additional resources to reduce care leaver isolation.

### **3 Other options considered in making recommendations**

3.1 None

### **4 Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money/VAT)**

4.1 Not applicable – all developmental opportunities will be progressed in line with financial advice and will be subject to further approvals processes.

### **5 Legal and Procurement colleague comments (including risk management issues, and legal, Crime and Disorder Act and procurement implications)**

5.1 Not applicable – all developmental opportunities will be progressed in line with financial advice and will be subject to further approvals processes.

### **6 Strategic Assets & Property colleague comments (for decision relating to all property assets and associated infrastructure) (Area Committee reports only)**

6.1 Not applicable – all developmental opportunities will be progressed in line with financial advice and will be subject to further approvals processes.

### **7 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)**

7.1 Has the equality impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No

An EIA is not required because:

Where necessary, separate EIAs will be completed to progress developmental opportunities outlines in this report.

Yes

### **8 List of background papers other than published works or those disclosing confidential or exempt information**

8.1 None

### **9 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

9.1 None

## Appendix 1

### **ICP Care Leaver Priority – Develop a sustainable pathway to suitable accommodation for young people with additional support needs**

The specific ask of the ICP is to **promote partnership working to develop a network of positive providers who can offer accommodation options for young people**

#### **What is working well?**

Internal semi-independent placements provide a good standard of accommodation and support that is cost effective

Staying put arrangements are in place

Nottingham City Council has a robust partnership with Nottingham City Homes that means Care Leavers have priority access to good quality accommodation

Work is underway in conjunction with Nottingham City Homes and Private Providers to ensure Care Leavers in Appeal regarding their Immigration status are provided with a good standard of accommodation that is cost effective.

We have a local housing provider that specializes in supporting the needs of the BAME community that has significant expertise in this area

#### **What are we worried about? Dangers/Risks/Needs**

Those young people assessed through the Pathway Planning process as not being able to, successfully sustain, their own tenancy. Currently there are no suitable options available to provide the support and accommodation for those young people post 18 who require this other than via the homelessness route, which is not appropriate for our Care Leavers.

Those young people who would benefit from the support provided, by living in a family setting, such as Supported Lodgings not currently available, to increase their confidence and independence skills and who cannot access a Staying put arrangement.

Commissioned semi-independence placements for young people aged sixteen to eighteen vary in their effectiveness to prepare young people for independence. Provision varies in terms of quality and cost and there are varied experiences of the support provided to the young people. This inevitably has negative implications for the quality of care, mental health, frequency of avoidable crises and involvement/ investment of crisis intervention agencies (police, EDT, crisis team) and eventually the long term outcome.

#### **What are the next steps?**

- Explore what works well elsewhere
- Care Leavers accommodation and support framework
  1. Prepare for reality of housing options
  2. Plan young people's accommodation and support options with them
  3. Reduce Housing crisis
  4. Access housing and support as needed
  5. Access and successfully manage longer term move on and support options

- Developing, piloting and rolling out of training package for semi-independence accommodation providers and their staff may be considered. This should be aiming at developing understanding and skills of the semi-independence providers, helping to develop effective, trauma informed, psychologically minded, mindful, risk aware, reflective and resilient care-settings across Nottingham city.
- Consider options for supported accommodation post 18.

## **Appendix 2**

### **ICP Care Leavers Priority – Ensure support for positive destinations which includes Employment, Education and Training, is holistic and takes account of health and wellbeing**

The specific ask of the ICP is **to promote aspiration and support those who wish to engage in EET**

#### **What is working well?**

The EET lead working as part of the Leaving Care team

Working with the two Futures workers as part of the Leaving Care team

Outcomes for care experienced young people are more positive than the national average

Our virtual school has engaged us in Unlock is a project that promotes aspiration for young people and can be used to provide mentoring opportunities for young people.

There is experience locally of delivering specifically tailored services for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (NEST)

Our virtual school has a Post-16 lead

#### **What are we worried about? Dangers/Risks/Needs**

Those care experienced young people furthest away from education/employment – perhaps not attended school for a long period of time – requiring support in basic English, Maths, IT and softer skills such as resilience, building self-esteem, confidence etc.

Options for those young people who are harder to reach, offending history, at risk of criminal exploitation

Ensuring appropriate support options for UASC young people

Outcomes in relation to higher education; ensuring the same options are available to care experienced young people if they choose to attend University outside of the area. (Linking in with accommodation options for holidays etc.)

Changing employment and education climate due to COVID 19 – skills gaps, changes to industry provision. There will be a further complication as these forums provide the best opportunity for some young people in care or who have left care to socially integrate.

Ensuring the support around positive destinations is holistic and takes into account mental health and wellbeing

Ensuring support and appropriate outcomes for those care experienced young people who choose to become parents (how success is measured? Outcomes in relation to their children?)

Issues in relation to identity and self-worth can contribute to young people in care lacking in aspiration and create a negative trajectory for them. We need to promote aspiration through supporting young people to develop self-worth, belonging and positive identity

For young people from BAME communities it is really important we offer access to positive role models and help young people to develop networks of support with the community

### **What are the next steps?**

Promoting aspiration and addressing the issue of a lingering psychological state of negative self-worth, identity and belonging – to strengthen mentoring schemes like Unlock; creating our internal mentoring scheme

Develop EET provision specific to UASC needs

Engage with sector leaders through the One Nottingham Board

To work with corporate sponsors in both the public and private sectors to identify 'buddies' that can support care experienced young people to gain experience and knowledge about different areas of work.

To work with corporate sponsors to provide care experienced young people with apprenticeship opportunities.

To consider the best mentoring/befriending support system to offer positive role models for care experienced young people

To look at models of opportunities for young people to develop their skills, such as opportunities to influence, provide peer support.

To offer educational opportunities for those care experienced young people who have been away from the education system for some time, English, Maths and IT support.

To develop a training package to support care experienced young people to gain skills to prepare them for leaving care and becoming more independent, budgeting etc. To look at other organisations that can support with this.

To consider how support is offered to care experienced young people who choose to become parents; peer support, parenting advice, consider how this may link in with accommodation options.

To consider how ongoing on line learning can be incorporated into ongoing options available for care experienced young people.

To look at options for education and training for those young people who are unable to attend Nottingham College due to their level of risk or previous exclusion and to reflect on other options that might be more successful with this cohort of young people (smaller classroom settings).

## Appendix 3

### **ICP Care Leavers Priority – Develop services that promote the emotional well-being of young people as they transition to adulthood and reduce the impact of loneliness**

The specific task agreed by the ICP is **to support work to develop a transition pathway from CAMHS to Adult Services for care experienced young people**

#### **What is working well?**

We have a dedicated multi-disciplinary CAMHS Team for Children in Care.

We have experience of delivering a programme of support that utilised personal budgets to provide children in care and care leavers with additional support as an alternative to more traditional therapeutic approaches. The impact of this was evaluated by Nottingham Trent University who concluded that it made a positive impact and represented good value for money. There is however no on-going funding for this project and so it is currently not active.

We worked with the Mental Health Foundation on a bid to develop a project that would scale up a service they have developed elsewhere to establish circles of support for children in care and care leavers. This was positively received but the funding decision is on hold following the impact of Covid-19

Discussions have taken place between the CCG and trust to explore the possibility of developing transitions between CAMHS and adult mental health services. There have been audits of case transitions to explore compliance with NICE guidelines in relation to this transition. These findings have been shared and will inform future planning. Some specialist teams in CAMHS (Eating Disorder team) have specialist transition posts in place

We have piloted a befriending service for young people that was very successful

#### **What are we worried about? Dangers/Risks/Needs**

Young people who have left care consistently tell us that loneliness is one of the biggest challenges that they face.

We have many young people with significant additional need who do not meet the threshold for adult services. We need to explore other opportunities to support the mental health of these young people that includes universal health services and voluntary sector providers. Better collaboration/ joint pathway between mental health, social care and primary care may be possible and made easier through utilising the ICP platform effectively

Those young people who do meet the threshold for adult mental health services tell us that they find the transition really difficult. We may need specialist roles to support this work and a protocol for joint case working at the point of transition

The specification for the CAMHS Children in Care team has not been reviewed for a considerable period of time. The team does not work with children placed out of area, which is where many of our more complex children in care live. Arranging therapeutic input for children living out of area can be very challenging.

We recognise that young people from BAME communities will have particular needs and experiences of accessing services. The lived experience of people from the BAME community

and those services that have been developed to respond to these will be critically important in progressing this priority

**What are the next steps?**

- Share the position in relation to the work with the Trust
- Share the NICE guidelines and the findings of audit
- Consider joint transitional pathway between primary care, specialist MH and Social care
- Consider implementation of the proposed joint transitional pathway between CAMHS and adult mental health services
- Reflect on the best mentoring/buddying support system to limit loneliness and isolation.

# Children in Care Key Performance Measures 2020-21 (Q1)

**Clive Chambers**  
**Head of Children in Care**



# Vital Signs: Children In Care (CIC)

01/04/2020 30/06/2020 : Select Date Range

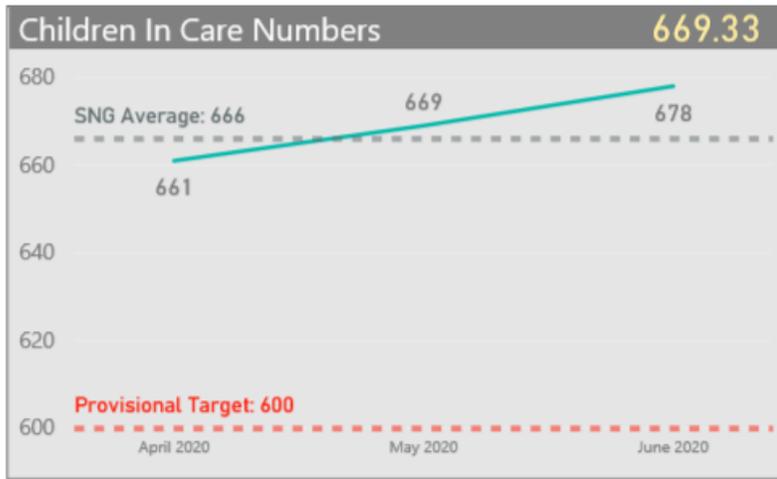
## Why are these measures important?

As Corporate Parents it is essential that the children in care cohort is closely monitored and managed. The number of children in care is a key figure that reflects the level of need in the City and benchmarking against peers can be very revealing. In addition the CiC cohort represents one of the largest areas of spend in the Authority and understanding the throughput can aid financial management. Safeguarding this cohort is critical and managers will wish to satisfy themselves that all processes are rigorously adhered to in accordance with best practice.

More detailed information on demand is available [here](#).  
 Hover over the charts to see supporting information and more detail.

### CIC Numbers and Admissions

- > The number of children in care represents the number of children in care at month end. It excludes those 18 years of age whose placement hasn't yet been ended in liquid logic due to data latency. The only exception is for those disabled children who remain in a dual purpose home beyond their 18th birthday who are voluntarily accommodated who are included in the count.
- > Children in care admissions relate to the count of children who enter care in that month.
- > Low to High. Nottingham has the 4th lowest CIC

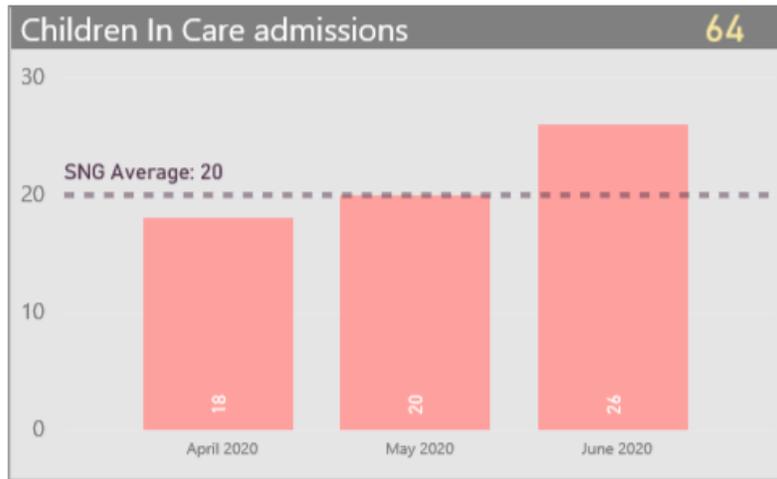


**Children In Care Numbers** **669.33**

**Target (As At)**  
+14.3% Above

**Benchmark**  
SNG 4/11  
National 116/153.

**Direction**  
Increasing



**Children In Care admissions** **64**

**Target**  
To Monitor

**Benchmark**  
SNG 5/11  
National 108/153

**Direction**  
Increasing

### CIC visits and Discharges

- > Up-to-date with visits is the % of those CIC open for more than one week who have a visit within 6 weeks. With the following exceptions; CIC for less than 4 weeks then visit within 7 days, placement change more than 7 days ago then visit should be since the change, placement type is long term fostering (U1 or U4) then visit within 12 weeks and legal status is ICO and placement is with parents then a visit should be within 4 weeks.
- > Children in care discharges relate to the count of children who leave care in that month.

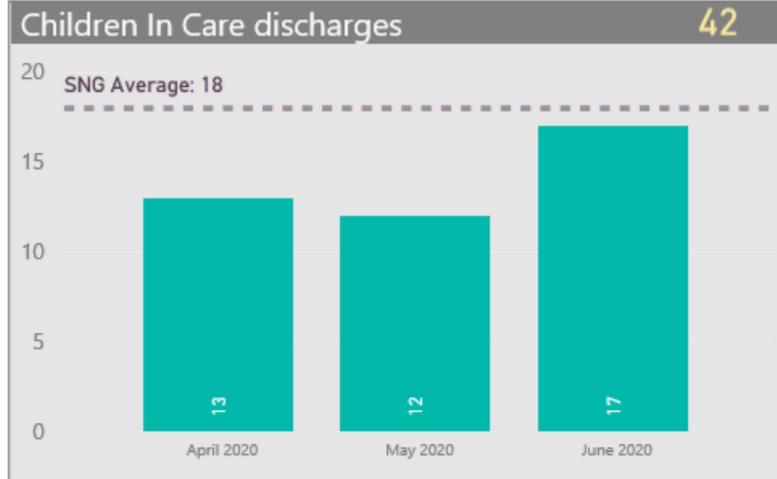


**Statutory visit (child seen) up-to-date (%)**

**Target (As At)**  
-9% Below

**Benchmark**  
No benchmark data available

**Direction**  
Improving



**Children In Care discharges** **42**

**Target**  
To Monitor

**Benchmark**  
SNG 5 /11  
National 110/153

**Direction**  
Static

# Vital Signs: Children In Care



01/04/2020

30/06/2020 : **Select Date Range**

## Why are these measures important?

There are a number of critical processes in place to help ensure children in care receive the best possible chance of a desirable outcome. For example, CiC reviews should be regular and timely as they are an opportunity for the IRO to review and challenge progress, before endorsing the plan. It is also important the child takes an active role in the decision being made and that their voice is captured and reflected. In addition CiC should have regular health and dental assessments to ensure all their health needs are met, this is a legal requirement and is important as the child's health could be neglected before entering care.

More detailed information on demand is available [here](#).

**Hover over** the charts to see supporting information and more detail.

### CiC Reviews

> The % of reviews in each month that are within required timescale; The 1st Review within 20 working days, 2nd review within 3 months of the 1st and subsequent reviews within 6 months of the last.

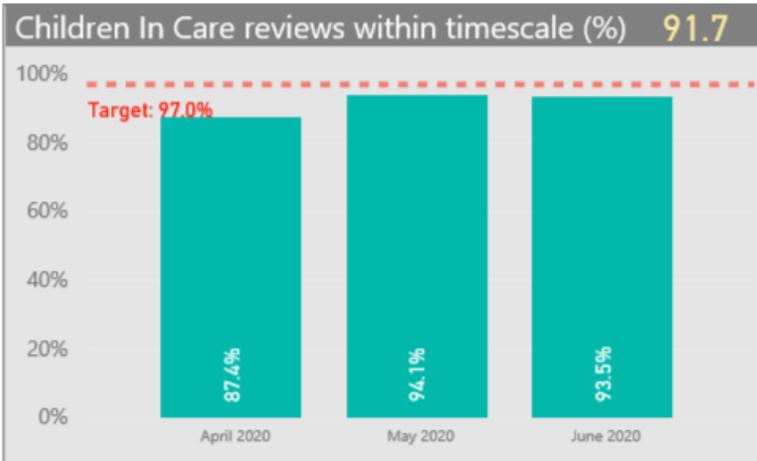
### Participation

> The % of CiC of 4 years or older, who participated at the review. There are many ways in which a child can participate at the meeting. These measures are differently from the old NI that measured children having all reviews or participation in timescale.

### CiC Health Outcomes

> Both measures give the % of children up-to-date at month endh. For health assessments a child is up-to-date if they have had a health assessment in last 12 months or for under 5's, 2 in each 6 month period unless they have been in care for less than 9 months then 1 is required. A child is up-to-date with dental checks if they have had 1 in the last 12 months. The national indicator only considers CiC for 12 months.

> This measure is prone to data latency.



### Target (YTD)

-4% Below

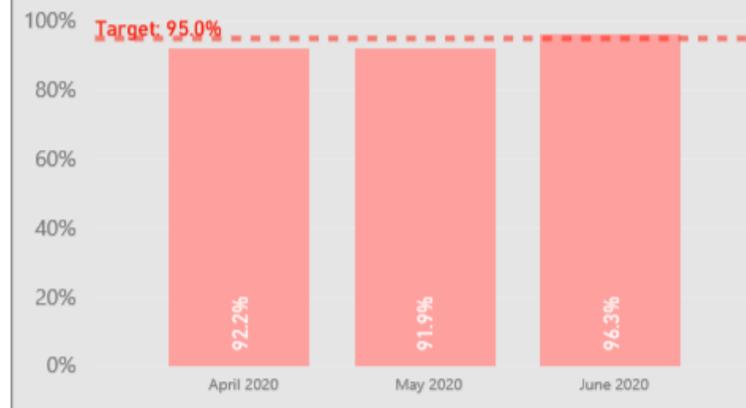
### Benchmark

No information available from the DfE

### Direction

Improving

### CiC Review Child Participated (%) 93.4



### Target

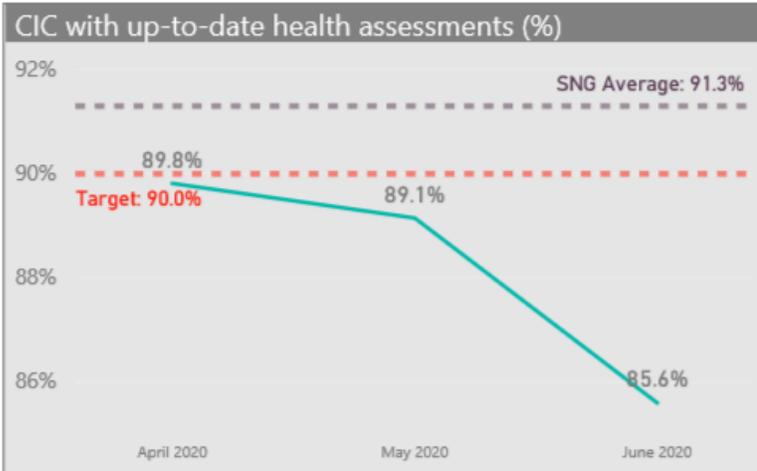
-1.1% Below

### Benchmark

No information available from the DfE

### Direction

Stable



### Target (As ...)

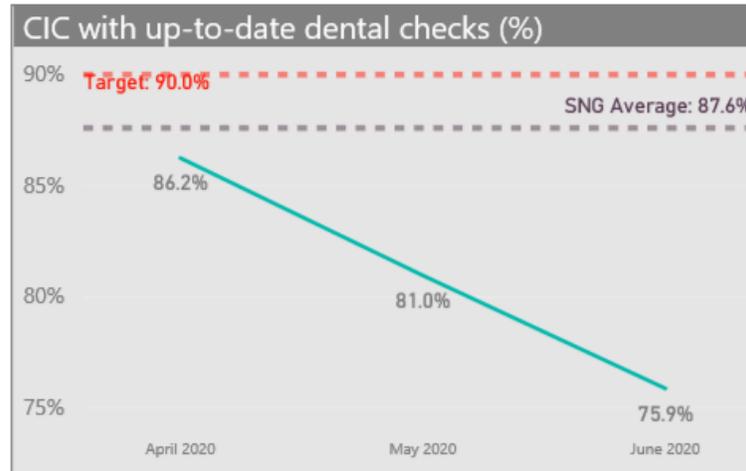
-7.45% Below

### Benchmark

3/11 SNG  
54/153 National  
Calculated differently

### Direction

Declining



### Target

20% Below

### Benchmark

1/11 SNG  
35/153 National  
Calculated differently

### Direction

Declining

# - Vital Signs: Children In Care



01/04/2020 30/06/2020 : **Select Date Range**

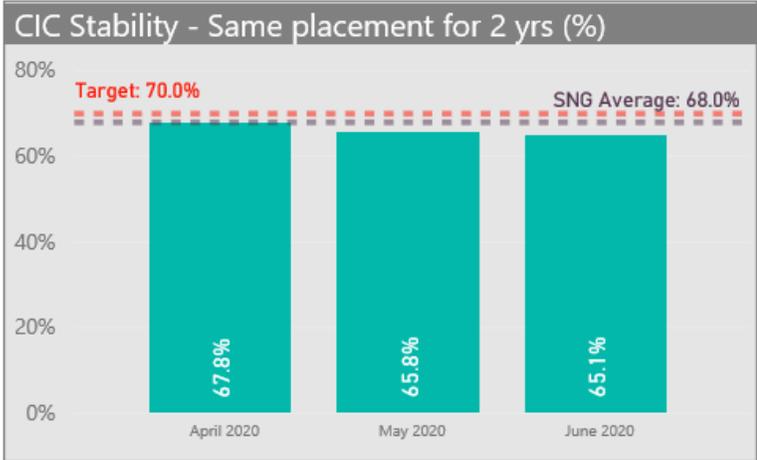
## Why are these measures important?

Placement stability is an important element of permanence as it creates opportunities for children to develop relationships with carers and colleagues, which may take time for children whose previous relationships have been characterised by adversity. Research supports the hypothesis that a stable environment is conducive to better outcomes and children in care will often voice their wish for a stable homelife. Managers will also wish to pay close attention to Adoption volumes and timescales. When a child enters the adoption process time is of the essence. There is evidence to suggest that for every a year a child is not adopted, the chances of them being adopted decreases by 20%.

More detailed information on demand is available [here](#).  
**Hover over** the charts to see supporting information and more detail.

### CIC Stability

- > Long-term placement stability is the % of children under the age of 16 who have been in care for at least 2 and a half years and have been in the same placement for 2 years. The higher the proportion the better
- > Short term placement stability is the proportion of children in care who have had three or more placements in the last 12 months. > Rankings are Low to High. The lower the proportion the better.



**Target (As At)**  
 -6.8% Below

**Benchmark**  
 SNG 6/11  
 National 82/153

**Direction**  
 Declining



**Target (As At)**  
 -0.8% Below

**Benchmark**  
 SNG 3/11  
 National 62/153

**Direction**  
 Stable

## Corporate Parenting Board

### Reporting Schedule: Forward Planner

#### 2020 - 2021

Report (Corresponding Strategic Priority Statement)	Report Lead	Draft Report submitted for Advice	Draft Report Submitted for Departmental Sign-off	Draft Report submitted to Constitutional Services by 10.00am	Chair's Briefing 11.00am	Final Report Submitted to Constitutional Services by 10.00am	Corporate Parenting Board 2.30pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pathway Planning / Transitions</li> <li>▪ Care Leavers' Service Annual Report</li> <li>▪ Performance Report (Q3 and Q4 2021/22)</li> <li>▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update)</li> <li>▪ Report Forward Planner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clive Chambers / Alison Wakefield</li> <li>▪ Clive Chambers / Alison Wakefield</li> <li>▪ Clive Chambers</li> <li>▪ Jon Rea</li> <li>▪ Cllr Barnard</li> </ul>			26 August 2020	07 September 2020	09 September 2020	21 September 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HYS Survey Feedback</li> <li>▪ IV Service Report</li> <li>▪ Advocacy Service Report</li> <li>▪ Complaints Service Report</li> <li>▪ Independent Reviewing Officer Service Annual Report</li> <li>▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update)</li> <li>▪ Report Forward Planner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jon Rea</li> <li>▪ CGL</li> <li>▪ Children's Society</li> <li>▪ Patrick Skeete</li> <li>▪ John Matravers</li> <li>▪ Jon Rea</li> <li>▪ Cllr Barnard</li> </ul>			23 October 2020	02 November 2020	04 November 2020	16 November 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reducing Offending Behaviour</li> <li>▪ Health of Children in Care</li> <li>▪ CiC CAMHS Report</li> <li>▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update)</li> <li>▪ Report Forward Planner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sam Flint / Natalie Pink</li> <li>▪ Kathryn Higgins / Melanie Bracewell</li> <li>▪ Matthew Jenkins</li> <li>▪ Jon Rea</li> <li>▪ Cllr Barnard</li> </ul>			21 December 2020	04 January 2021	06 January 2021	18 January 2021

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Foster Carer Recruitment and Retention</li> <li>▪ Fostering and Adoption Panel</li> <li>▪ Adoption and Permanency</li> <li>▪ Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy Review</li> <li>▪ Performance Report (Q3 and Q4 2021/22)</li> <li>▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update)</li> <li>▪ Report Forward Planner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Audrey Taylor</li> <li>▪ Audrey Taylor</li> <li>▪ Audrey Taylor</li> <li>▪ Clive Chambers</li> <li>▪ Clive Chambers</li> <li>▪ Jon Rea</li> <li>▪ Cllr Barnard</li> </ul>			19 February 2021	01 March 2021	03 March 2021	15 March 2021
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**ATTENTION: IMPORTANT NOTE ON REPORT SUBMISSION**

All reports from City Council staff for presentation to the Board must be produced and submitted through the corporate report management system, here: <http://gossweb.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/nccextranet/index.aspx?articleid=10263>.

When submitting a report for advice, you will be prompted to select reviewers. You should select the following reviewers:

- Sophie Russell
- Clive Chambers

When submitting a report for departmental sign-off, you should select the following reviewer:

- Helen Blackman

External partners should submit reports via email to [clive.chambers@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:clive.chambers@nottinghamcity.gov.uk), no later than 10:00am on the date stated.

Please note that additional reports may be added to the schedule by request of the Chair or other Board Members. Reports May also be subject to schedule changes.